minors for earning large amount from participants of the country and abroad every year;

(d) whether Government propose to introduce special charged buses from all localities of Delhi for future LIT. Fs;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The gross income earned by ITPO from different sources relating to India International Trade Fair (IITF) during the last three years is given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| IITF | 1995 | 922.70 |
| IITF | 1996 | 1067.36 |
| IITF | 1997 | 1223.86 |

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(0 On the request of ITPO, DTC have made extensive arrangement to cater to the needs of commuters from different part of Delhi. The Northern Railway authorities have activated the ring railway to have easy access to the fair.

**Import and Export of Onion**

15. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of onion imported during July, 1998 to October, 1998 with names of countries from where it was imported and the price paid for the imported onion; and

(b) the quantity of onion exported during the period from 1st July, 1998 to 31st October, 1998 with names of countries to whom onion was exported during the above period and price received from this export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) Onion were restricted for import up to 15.10.1998. As per figures available with Customs authorities. 5594 MT of onions have been imported after this item was put on the free list. Data relating to countries from where imports were sourced is not readily available.

(b) Data relating to export of onion are as under:—

| Month | Qty. (MT.) | Price per Ton (Rs.) |
|---|---|---|
| July, 98 | 27981 | 10,821 |
| August, 98 | 15316 | 14,884 |
| September, 98 | 2539 | 15,947 |
| October, 98 | 537 | 22,061 |

Exports of onion were made to Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Gulf Countries and Far East countries.

**Complaints Filed at Dispute Settlement Panels of WTO**

16. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints filed by the Western countries before the disputes Settlement Panels of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) the number of complaints lodged by India against these countries; and

(c) the number of verdicts for and against India delivered by these Panels?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) to (c) As per information available, the number of complaints filed by the Western countries before the Disputes Settlement Panels of the World Trade organisation is thirty four. Out of these, twelve complaints have been filed against India. The number of complaints lodged by India against these countries is eight.

Out of 18 disputes in which India is so far involved either as complaint or as respondent, with these countries, four have been amicably settled, in two disputes India has lost, in three India has won and nine are still continuing.

**India's Trade Balance**

17. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) India's trade balance during the last five years;

(b) whether there is a deterioration in India's trade balance this year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for the widening of the gap between exports and imports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) As per the Directorate of Commercial Intellegence & Statistics (DGCI&S) data, the balance of trade during the last 5 years was as follows:—

| Year | Us $ million |
|---|---|
| 1993-94 | (-) 1069 |
| 1994-95 | (-) 2324 |
| 1995-96 | (-) 4881 |
| 1996-97 | (-) 5662 |
| 1997-98(P) | (-) 6799 |

(P) Provisional

(b) and (c) The trade deficit increased from US $ 2496 million during April-September, 1997-98, to US $ 4991 during April-September, 1998-99.

(d) The widening of gap has been due both to a slow down in export growth and to increase in imports especially that of gold and silver.

**Revamping of' Export Promotion Councils**

18. Dr. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government propose to revamp various Export Promotion Councils in a bid to streamline their operations and lift sagging exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether there is any proposal to formulate comprehensive Model-bye-laws for the smooth functioning of various Export Promotion Councils; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith other measures proposed to be taken to push up the volume of exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) The performance of Export Promotion Councils is reviewed on a regular basis with special reference to the mandate given to them. Government is continuously making efforts to strengthen these Councils to enable them to cater to the needs of the exporting community in an effective manner.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Sub-Committee has been constituted to look into this matter. Their recommendations are under consideration.

**Export and Import of Sugar**

19. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) What is the total quantity of sugar exported from India during the last three years till date, quantity-wise, country-wise and value thereof;

(b) whether Govt, also imported sugar during the period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, quantity-wise, country-wise alongwith value thereof till date?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE): (a) and (b) The total quantity & value of sugar exported and imported during the last three years is as under:

Quantity: in Tonnes
Value: Rs. in Lakhs

| Year | Exports | | Imports | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| 1995-96 | 434320 | . 59734 | 150630 | 21589 |
| 1996-97 | 667274 | 86080.03 | 2131 | 318.04 |
| 1997-98 | 175081 | 24060.24 | 330248 | 44337.14 |
| 1998-99 (April August) | 2409 | 340.71 | 325840 | 44096.66 |

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) Country-wise details of exports and imports are available in monthly/annual number of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S). Calcutta, copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

**Indo-Myaiunar Trade Treaty**

20. SHRI W ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions of the Indo-Myanmar Trade Treaty;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that this Treaty has indirectly affected the 'daily earners of our country who belong to the poorest of the poor;